has been started for Networking and Computerisation of City Courts in the four major metrocities of Delhi, Chennai, Kolkata and Mumbai to serve as a model. The project is aimed at augmenting capacities of courts and speeding up their disposal through better court management with the help of information technology.

Civil Procedure Code has been amended and the amendments have been brought into force with effect from 1.07.2002 which, inter-alia, limit the number of adjournments which can be granted to a party to three, provide for speedy process service by speed post, courier services, fax or e-mail, authorise the court to fix time limit for oral arguments & provide for a number of other measures aimed at ensuring expeditious disposal of cases. Permanent Lok Adalats are being set up for expeditious resolution of disputes relating to public utilities.

Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme funds have also been provided for the use of Information Technology in the High Courts. Fast Track Courts have been set up to speed up the trial of delayed cases, and in particular the cases of undertrials who have been in jail for a long time.

State Governments & Union Territories have been requested to fill up vacant posts of judges/magistrates & supporting staff in District/Subordinate Courts.

Business of surety on forged documents in capital

3975. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that hundreds of unemployed persons working under touts stand surety on forged documents in connivance with unscrupulous lawyers in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) the preventive measures proposed to be taken to unearth the racket going on in the judiciary system?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, in case of doubt that an attempt is being made to present an impersonator in support of bogus document, then concerned police station is directed to register the case.

Anti Corruption branch of Govt. of National Capital Territory of Delhi also takes the following steps to prevent corruption/malpractices.

(i) Conducting raids on specific complaints.

(ii) Creating awareness in the general public by issuing advertisements in the press.

(iii) Ensuring that the departments put up boards indicating names and phone numbers of officers of the Anti Corruption Branch where the cases of corruption/malpractices can be reported

Assistance for development of feeder canals of Kerala

3976. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government consider to extend the financial assistance to Kerala for the development of feeder canals connected to national waterways;

(b) whether Government of Kerala have submitted any proposal for the same and sought financial assistance;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government propose to renovate the national waterways from Kollam to Kovalam to facilitate the journey; and

(e) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI): (a) Kerala Government can avail of financial assistance for development of feeder canals, under Centrally Sponsored Scheme.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) Kollam-Kovalam stretch is not a part of the National Waterway.

Night navigation facilities in National Waterways No. 1 and 2

3977. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of buoys at National Waterways No. 1 and 2 put in